

## CLAIMS

- 1) In a process for the recovery of a protein expressed in prokaryotic host cells as inclusion bodies and its subsequent purification, the improvement consisting in interposing a Reverse Phase Chromatography step between the step of solubilization of the aggregated proteins in the inclusion bodies/denaturation and the renaturation/refolding step.
- 2) The process of claim 1, in which the prokaryotic cells are bacterial cells.
- 3) The process of claims 1 or 2, in which the bacterial cells are E. Coli cells.
- 4) An improved process according to any of claims 1 and 2, in which the protein extracted and purified is a chemokine.
- 5) The process of claim 3 wherein the chemokine is the chemokine mutant of SEQ ID NO: 1.